



Department of Justice

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HOGSETT ANNOUNCES SENTENCING OF SEX OFFENDER FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER

PRESS RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS - Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney, announced today that David John Smith, 49, of Evansville, Ind., was sentenced to 15 months in prison by U.S. District Chief Judge Richard L. Young following his guilty plea to failure to register as a sex offender. This case was the result of a investigation by the U.S. Marshals Service and the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department.

Smith had been convicted of multiple sex offenses against minors, including rape and sodomy, while serving in the United States Navy under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Smith served the last part of his Uniform Code of Military Justice sentence at the Lexington, Kentucky, Federal Medical Center, a United States Bureau of Prisons facility. Smith was released from the facility on December 18, 2009. Smith had signed a document stating he was required to register as a sex offender no matter where he lived when released from prison.

Smith plead guilty to failing to register immediately prior to his sentencing. At the time of his guilty plea, Smith admitted that he moved to Evansville, Ind., after his release from prison and did not register as a sex offender at that time.

Smith was charged as part of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. The Act is intended to protect children from sexual exploitation and violent crime and to honor the memory of child crime victims. The offense imposes criminal penalties against sex offenders convicted under the Uniform Code of Military Justice that fail to register in states where they reside, are employed, or are students.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Young also imposed a life time term of supervised release following Smith's release from prison. During the period of supervised release, Smith must comply with

all sex offender registration laws and must not have unsupervised contact with minors. Smith must also serve the first six months of his supervised release period on electronic monitoring.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

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